



ESTABLISHED AUGUST 24, 1852.

WHEELING, W. VA., MONDAY, DECEMBER 31, 1894.

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THE DESTITUTION

In the Drouth-Stricken District of Western Nebraska.

PEOPLE PERISHING WITH COLD

And Hunger, and Relief Must Come From Outside.

TERRIBLE STORY OF SUFFERING.

Over Six Hundred Families in One County Alone Are Appealing for Help—Many People Known to Have Perished For Want of Fuel and Hundreds More Are Starving—The Corn Crop Was a Total Failure in Many Counties and the Inhabitants Were Unable to Meet the Blasts of Winter—Work of the State Relief Committee.

DENVER, COL., Dec. 30.—The Rocky Mountain News has received several special dispatches from western Nebraska, telling of the destitution and distress prevailing among the inhabitants of the drouth-stricken districts. A dispatch from Hastings says: "Terrible destitution exists in Perkins, Chase, Dunby, Lincoln, Hays, Hitchcock and frontier counties, and the worst feature is the people in several localities are afflicted with scurvy for want of wholesome food."

The state relief committee find themselves unable to relieve all people in distress, so great are the demands for aid. The railroad men report that since the cold snap, no less than a dozen people have perished in the above counties in the past two days for want of food and fuel.

Hundreds of families are without coal and in the border counties, where no trees or brush exists, the poor people had a hard time to keep from freezing to death. In Perkins county destitution is complete. Over 600 families are appealing for help.

Near Lisbon, the wife and two children of Settler Burns suffer for want of proper nourishment and clothing to cover them.

In Hitchcock county, the wife of one of the settlers gave birth to twins during the storm and before the neighbors could reach the home, the poor woman expired for want of sufficient food and attention. The twins are still living and in charge of charitable neighbors.

Coal is most needed in the drouth district, and Mr. Ludden, of the state relief committee, and General Manager Holdredge, of the Burlington & Missouri River road, are doing everything in their power to forward supplies to the more destitute localities. Very few of the farmers in the border counties have any stock left, having lost their cattle and horses in the drouth. Stock is being driven out of the state to prevent starvation.

Corn planted in eight or ten of the western counties never reached a height of over six inches, and contains no more nourishment than sage brush. People are living in covered wagons by the hundreds, rather than face starvation and freeze to death.

One of the first acts of the legislature which convenes next Thursday will be to pass a suitable appropriation for the relief of the sufferers. More or less destitution exists in every county from the Colorado line east to Hall and Adams counties, and the various relief committees are overwhelmed with appeals for aid.

North Platte reports: It is a fact that there have been many cases of suffering and hunger among the drouth sufferers in Lincoln and Logan counties. Many families have only potatoes and milk to live on now, with no hay or grain for their stock through the rest of the winter. The county in a short time will be unable to supply the increasing demand for the necessities of life. The overseers of the poor state that there are more calls already than the county can supply, and unless aid comes from the outside there will be many deaths from hunger and want of clothing this winter.

A dispatch from Curtis says: Great distress prevails throughout this and surrounding counties owing to crop failures the past two seasons. Relief committees have been organized in almost every precinct and solicitors sent out for aid, several carloads of which have been received. This, with what aid the county has been able to give, has alone prevented suffering among the people and stock. The outlook is extremely dark owing to the scarcity of food and seed grain, the two articles most needed.

The state relief commission has fifty families on its list as worthy and needing assistance, and the most distressing reports come in from all over the western part of the state relating to the want of food and clothing," says a Lincoln dispatch. "No deaths certainly attributable to starvation have yet been reported, although it is claimed that a woman and two children found dead in a cabin near Niobrara the morning before Christmas died from lack of food and care."

There are thousands who could not withstand the rigors of a cold spell without aid, which is being sent out in enormous supply by the relief commission wherever it is known to be needed. Relief supplies are being received from all over the country and shipped directly to the needy in car lots."

POSTMASTER'S SOLD.

The Seller Fails to Deliver the Goods, but Insists Upon the Price.

RALEIGH, N. C., Dec. 30.—The supreme court has handed down a decision in an extremely novel case, which has attracted much attention. John R. Morse, postmaster at Henderson, whose term expired last March, agreed, prior to the expiration of his term, to hand over the office to A. M. Bassett, in consideration of \$972 paid to Morse in the form of a deed of trust on 125 acres of land.

Morse's term expired, but he failed to secure the appointment of Bassett. Notwithstanding, he insisted upon enforcing his lien. Action was brought to restrain Morse from selling the land. The supreme court decided that it could not interfere by injunction restraining Morse from selling the land,

but declared that moral sense revolts at traffic in the bestowal of public office, and that such traffic is against public morals and public policy.

K. OF P. AND THE POPE.

A High Official of the Order on the Anti-Secret Society Decree.

NASHVILLE, TENN., Dec. 30.—Dr. L. C. White, supreme keeper of records and seals, Knights of Pythias, in an interview concerning the order and the recent papal edict, says:

"It seems to me a matter which each individual must settle for himself, and I take it that each Catholic Knight of Pythias will have to settle with himself the comparative ties binding him to the absolute obedience of the temporal decrees of the pope or the observance of the ties binding him to his fraternity. I presume the effect may be different in various localities. The devout Catholic who thinks that every wish of the pope must be sacredly observed will feel that he must withdraw. Conversely, the man who considers himself his own master in worldly affairs will remain in the order if he is devoted to its principles. I have talked with several local Catholic Knights of Pythias concerning the question, and they all say they intend to remain in the order."

"This pronouncement of the pope against the Knights of Pythias comes, I believe, from the advanced and pronounced requirements of our order. The supreme lodge has decreed that each member must be loyal to the government under which he lives in preference to all other allegiance. You can see where that would fail to please the pope."

FOREIGN STAMPS.

They Can No Longer Be Printed in This Country for Stamp Collectors.

WASHINGTON, D. C., Dec. 30.—The opinion of the solicitor of the treasury to the effect that it is unlawful to have in possession or use plates for the printing of postage stamps in the similitude of those issued by foreign governments, will be acted upon at once. It is stated by the chief of the secret service that so-called stamp albums now on hand by publishers and dealers containing these prints will not be confiscated, but no more will be allowed to be printed. The cuts, plates, etc., from which they are printed will be seized if not surrendered. It is an astonishing fact that the penalty imposed by law for the counterfeiting of foreign stamps is much more severe than for counterfeiting United States stamps. In the case of foreign stamps the penalty is not less than two nor more than ten years' imprisonment, or both. Thus a court might impose a fine of \$1 or one day's imprisonment for the violations of our own law and come within the law, while the minimum penalty as to foreign stamps is two years' imprisonment.

THEIR BACK SALARIES.

Senators Who Will Not Be Paid—Why They Are Cut Out.

WASHINGTON, D. C., Dec. 30.—The three new senators who will be elected to fill the vacancies in the states of Wyoming, Washington and Montana will probably not be paid the back salaries which have heretofore been paid to senators elected or appointed to fill vacancies. They were cut out by an express provision in the legislative appropriation bill of the last session, which, it is believed, will put an end to this practice for the future. Under the system which has prevailed heretofore each man chosen would have received the pay for the entire term of six years, notwithstanding two years of the time has already elapsed. The new provision will therefore work a saving to the government of \$30,000 in this instance and of larger sums in the future. The new law provides that the salaries of senators shall begin on the date of their election or appointment.

THE WORK OF CONGRESS.

Will Be Resumed Wednesday—An Effort to Pass Business.

WASHINGTON, D. C., Dec. 30.—Both houses of Congress will resume their sessions on Thursday next, and it is expected that there will be a more determined effort to press forward the work of the session for the next two months than has characterized the proceedings during the month which has already elapsed.

The necessary work of the session is the passage of the appropriation bills, of which there are fourteen. Of those none have passed the senate and only five have received the sanction of the house. Of those five, the senate committee on appropriations has passed favorably upon the pensions and military academy bills, while the army, fortifications and urgent deficiency bills are still under consideration by the committee.

The Nicaragua canal discussion will, barring the possibility of displacement and adjournment over until the following Monday, be resumed after the morning hour on Thursday, with Senator Morgan occupying the floor.

SOMEBODY'S CARELESSNESS

Causes the Serious Injury of Five Persons in a Carriage.

CHICAGO, Dec. 30.—A Chicago, Rock Island & Pacific passenger coach, being rapidly switched into the Rock Island depot this afternoon, crashed into a carriage at the Pacific avenue and Harrison street crossing. Five persons were badly injured, the carriage demolished and one of the horses so badly injured that it had to be shot. The injured are: Mrs. C. Christian, of 423 West Harrison street, injured internally; Mrs. R. Christian, of Ottawa, Canada, injured internally; Miss Bertha Christian, badly bruised; Miss Jennie Christian, injured internally and bruised; Dennis O'Connor, driver, injured internally and badly bruised.

The accident was caused by the carriage being shut in on the tracks by the gates dropping without warning.

BISHOP MARTY'S REMOVAL.

ST. PAUL, MINN., Dec. 30.—Archbishop Ireland to-day received the formal announcement from Rome of the removal of Bishop Marty of Sioux Falls, S. D., to the vacant bishopric of St. Cloud, Minn., succeeding Bishop Zardetti, who was made an archbishop of Bucharest. Bishop Marty's successor at Sioux Falls has not yet been named.

ICE IN FLORIDA

And a Great Portion of the Orange and Vegetable Crops Ruined.

JACKSONVILLE, FLA., Dec. 30.—Reports by wire from fifty-one correspondents in the range districts of the state indicate that at least 1,800,000 of unpicked oranges are solid globes of ice and more than 3,000 boxes of oranges in warehouses, or lying in bulk, preparatory to picking, are frozen. Tomatoes, cabbage, beans, peas and all vegetables in the northern half of the state are ruined except the pineapple plantations, which are not much injured.

Day before yesterday half of this season's orange crop was still on the trees. The tail of the northern blizzard swept around through the Florida peninsula and within the space of a few hours Florida had sustained a loss that if estimated in money would reach into the millions. The destruction will be felt for many years, directly or indirectly, by all the people of the state. Previous to this time the coldest weather known was in 1835, but there is no record to show just how cold it was then.

Reports from the interior of the state show that the cold weather has been general and has extended from one end of the peninsula to the other. The lowest temperature at Tampa was 18 and the same was reported at Titusville; at Cedar Key it was said to be as low as 16 and at Key West it was down to 44. The cold weather played havoc with plumbing and water pipes were frozen. The occurrence was so unusual that it was some time before the residents could realize that water had actually frozen in the pipes.

There was no ice on the river front, as was the case in 1886, but this was doubtless due to the wind. There was ice in shallow places, however, and there were icicles everywhere. The weather has moderated and the cold spell is now broken. At 8 o'clock tonight the temperature was 40.

SEVERE WEATHER

Along the Coast Reported by Incoming Steamships.

NEW YORK, Dec. 30.—All incoming steamers report very severe weather along the coast. Steamers from Europe report having experienced the effects of the gale of the 27th when approaching the Georges banks of Nantucket; the wind, which set in from the southeast, blowing a strong gale, shifted to the southwest and northwest, accompanied by heavy seas and intensely cold weather. The vessels' decks and hulls were quickly coated with ice to the thickness of several inches. The crews suffered much from the cold and the task of getting about the decks proved a very difficult one.

ON THE BRITISH COAST.

Vessels in Danger—One Bark Suffers Great Damage.

LONDON, Dec. 30.—Severe weather has prevailed throughout Great Britain since Saturday, the heavy gale being accompanied by hail and snow, rendering navigation along the coasts both difficult and dangerous. All vessels that could do so, made for havens of shelter. Some of them, however, did not succeed in reaching port but wrecked when almost in sight of safety. This was the case of the British bark Osseo, Captain Boggs, which sailed from Talat, August 15, for Adressan. She made the long voyage safely until this morning when she was wrecked on the Holyhead breakwater and every soul on board of her, twenty-four in all, were drowned. The Osseo was caught in a gale in the Irish Sea and Captain Boggs evidently thought that he would run into Holyhead and wait for the storm to abate.

How the accident occurred is not exactly known, but it is surmised that an extraordinarily high sea lifted her when she was quite close to the breakwater and dashed her upon it. She struck amidships and immediately began to break up, the sea pounding at her furiously the moment she became stationary.

OCEAN COLLISION.

GIBRALTAR, Dec. 30.—The British steamer Yoxford, from Palermo for New York, has arrived here with some of her plate damaged. She reports having been in collision with the French bark Maria Louise. The bark was so badly damaged that she sank. Five of her crew were drowned.

RICHES THRUST ON HIM.

A Farmer Growing Wealthy from a Farm He Tried Hard Not to Accept.

MUNCIE, IND., Dec. 30.—Hiram Tewksbury, a farmer east of Montpelier, seems to have gotten rich in spite of himself.

When the Petty Bros., representing the Standard Oil Company, were near Montpelier leasing oil territory, Mr. Tewksbury, being very well known, was secured by them to assist in leasing farms. The Howard farm, of 100 acres, was for sale, but they would not lease it. The Pettys prevailed upon Mr. Tewksbury to buy it, telling him they would take it off his hands, presumably at a fair advance over the price, \$50 per acre.

He bargained for the land, but the Pettys did not raise the money, or at least did not, and he made an effort to prevent taking it, as he already owned more land than he wanted at this time. The Howard heirs insisted, brought suit for the fulfillment of contract, and won the case. To-day the farm so forced upon him yields a revenue of over \$100 per day from the great amount of oil it is producing. As a result, the old gentleman has already got the money back he paid for the land, and now oil still flows as strong as ever. Tewksbury promises to soon be the richest man in Eastern Indiana, as a result of having something forced upon him which he did not want.

ATTACKED BY NATIVES.

LONDON, Dec. 31.—A dispatch to the Times from Cape Town says it is reported from Delagoa Bay that rebellious natives attacked two Portuguese gunboats on the Incomati river, arrested their progress and killed the officer in chief command.

LI HUNG CHANG DEPOSED.

LONDON, Dec. 30.—A dispatch from Peking says that the ex-Viceroy of Nanking, Liu Kun Yi, has been appointed to the chief command of all the Chinese forces, thus superseding Li Hung Chang and Prince Kuang, the emperor's uncle, who was only a short time ago appointed to that position among two or three others.

HOTEL FIRE

From Which Distinguished New Yorkers Narrowly Escape.

FAMOUS ALBANY HOUSE BURNED

And Many State Politicians Nearly Lose Their Lives.

MANY THRILLING EXPERIENCES

Of Guests and Quite a Number Are Injured—A Timely Discovery of the Blaze is All That Averted a Frightful Calamity in Connection With the Total Destruction of the Historic Hotel Delavan—All the Guests Lose Their Baggage—Headquarters of Candidates for the New York Speakership Suddenly Thrown Into a Wild Panic.

ALBANY, N. Y., Dec. 30.—The candidacy of the several men for speaker of the assembly received a startling baptism of fire here to-night at the Delavan house. That famous hostelry, known from Maine to California, the mecca of politicians and the centre of all big state political events for forty years, was completely destroyed. Fire is not an uncommon visitor, but fire such as this to-night has seldom been seen.

It was half past eight and the political headquarters of both Mr. Fish and Mr. Maltby were filled with politicians and newspaper men. State Factory Inspector Connelly, who had been started to go up the elevator. He remarked that he smelled smoke and suggested an investigation. Before it could be begun there were cries of fire from different parts of the house simultaneously. The outburst of flames before an alarm could be given to arouse the inmates of the rooms, was something appalling. Up the elevator shaft there shot a solid column of flames, up the staircase near this shot another column. As the mass of white hot flames reached each of the five floors it branched out into tongues of leaping destruction and it seemed as though the whole interior of the structure was a seething mass.

Fortunately the guest list was not large, and the majority of those registered were politicians and were down on the second floor, where Mr. Fish and Mr. Maltby had headquarters. There was a rush for the stairs in the front and the flames had not yet reached, where the flames had not yet reached, and in a few minutes there was a tumbling mass of humanity coming down these few floors of egress.

THRILLING ESCAPES.

Those on the two upper floors could not avail themselves of these exits, for the flames were rushing along the corridors and the people on the street, who had not yet seen the flames, heard a crash of glass and saw figures come tumbling out of the windows. Within 10 minutes after the first note of alarm, at least twelve persons were dangling on the insufficient rope fire escapes or hanging on to the window sills.

The department arrived quickly, but it took some time to get ladders up, and in the meantime some of the people had dropped to the street. On the right side of the building there appeared at a window surrounded by smoke a man and a woman. The man had hold of the woman trying to persuade her to wait for help, but she broke away and sprang out. She struck a balcony and rebounded to the street. The man waited for a ladder and was taken down in safety. His name was H. A. Fokes, and he represented a cash register company in Dayton, Ohio. The woman was his wife, and she will probably die.

In ex-Speaker Maltby's room, which was to the rear of the elevator shaft where the fire first appeared, there was the greatest excitement. About twenty politicians were there including Congressman Weaver and Curtis, Senator Kilburn and Mr. Maltby. A rush was made for the stairs and when the party landed in the street, the only injured one was found to be Assemblyman Robbins, whose hair and face was badly burned.

BAGGAGE LOST.

In Mr. Fish's headquarters there was less hurry, because they were near the stairs. All got down safely, but the majority lost their baggage. E. A. Manchester, of Auburn, postmaster of the assembly, ran towards the baggage room for his grip. Returning he found his way blocked with flames and smoke, and rushed back to a window. He smashed it out and slid down the rope fire escape.

Although five stories high, there were no outside fire escapes, and the only means left for the people in the cut-off rooms was to use the rope fire escapes. B. F. Heilmann, of Brooklyn, was in the third story. He opened his room door as soon as he heard the cry of fire. A burst of flames made him look to the window as the means of escape. In an instant he had but two alternatives—a fiery death or a jump. He chose the latter and plunged through the window. When he was picked up by the sidewalk he was found to be badly injured. His wife, who was in the room with him, tried the fire escape, but it either broke or else she failed to hold to it, for she, too, came to the pavement heavily. Her right leg was broken, her left ankle dislocated and she was badly burned about the face and head.

In less than fifteen minutes after the fire started, the entire structure was wrapped in flames. From the windows of each of its five stories smoke poured in volumes and a few minutes later the flames belched forth. In twenty minutes the building resembled a seething crater and it was plain to the thousands of spectators who had gathered that it would be entirely destroyed. Edward Waleis, a porter, was caught in the hall. Before he could get out he was badly burned and had to be taken to the hospital.

A FAMOUS HOUSE.

The Delavan house is fifty years old, and is one of the most famous hotels in the country. The total loss is estimated at \$500,000, with an insurance of \$300,000.

At 10:30 the east walls fell in, and

some of the firemen narrowly escaped being buried.

At 11:30 the Broadway wall fell out and one fireman was buried in the debris. He was taken out and is not thought to be dangerously hurt. One of the incidents of the fire was the escape of Miss Martin, of New York. She was in the fourth story window on the Steuben street side when a ladder was raised. A messenger boy rushed up and broke the window, thus freeing her.

The hotel takes in the entire block, 110 by 450 feet, and this was in fifteen minutes a seething cauldron only bound by the four walls. The wires of the electric light company were destroyed, and a section of the city was in darkness, save for the light of the fire. Of the one hundred or more guests at the hotel, not one is known to have saved more than the clothes on their person. The fire burned fiercely for five hours and is still burning. The legislators and others soon found quarters at other hotels, and Mr. Fish opened up his campaign in the Kenmore, but everything has been lost sight of in the fire.

THE SILVER LAKE FIRE

The Great Christmas Calamity Is Worse Than First Reported.

PORTLAND, ORE., Dec. 30.—A dispatch received from Klamath Falls in reference to the fire at Silver Lake, in which many lives were lost, besides a number fatally injured, says:

There were probably 125 people in the hall, where a Christmas entertainment was in progress. The panic-stricken ones rushed for the door. Some were caught in volumes of flame, while others were trampled under and forced to their doom by the frantic people seeking to effect their escape from the horrible death that awaited them.

Many leaped for life from the windows, receiving serious if not fatal injuries. Others were dragged out more dead than alive.

Later reports may be even more fearful than those at hand, which state that 41 persons were burned to death and five others mortally injured.

Silver Lake is a small town containing about five business houses and a few dwellings. It is a prosperous settlement of farmers and stockmen.

Physicians from Lakeview and Paisley have gone to minister to the sufferers. The settlers of the surrounding country are also sending contributions of money and provisions.

FIRE NEAR FAIRMONT.

Special Dispatch to the Intelligencer.

FAIRMONT, W. VA., Dec. 30.—The dwelling of Stanton Evans, about five miles from here, burned yesterday afternoon. The fire was caused by a defective flue. Only a few of the household goods were saved, as Mr. Evans was in town. The loss amounts to about \$1,500.

CAUSED BY A SMOKER.

BIDDEFORD, ME., Dec. 30.—The city building here was damaged to the extent of \$50,000 by fire early this morning. A cigar stub carelessly thrown into a closet on the second floor caused the fire.

SERIOUS EXPLOSION.

A Building Wrecked and Several Persons Injured.

CINCINNATI, O., Dec. 30.—The Commercial-Gazette's Elwood, Ind., says: The building in which Milo See's barber shop and lodgings are located was wrecked to-day by a natural gas explosion, causing a loss of \$2,000 and badly injuring six persons, as follows: Milo See, head, face and back badly cut; Fred Estner, head, face and hands cut; Harry Goatee, badly burned, gash in head; Alfred Anderson, badly bruised, and internal injuries; Jerry Claxton, right leg broken; Charles Hand, left leg broken.

In the Woolly furnace at Anderson to-day, Clyde Carpenter was seriously injured by a natural gas explosion.

NATURAL GAS EXPLOSION.

FREMONT, O., Dec. 30.—To-day at noon, while three men were making repairs to the regulator of the Northwestern Ohio Natural Gas Company, an explosion occurred, wrecking the regulator and seriously injuring the men whose names are: C. L. Stevens, Charles Grable and J. B. Loveland.

MURDER MYSTERY

Revealed by the Confession of a Negro Arrested in This State.

COLUMBUS, O., Dec. 30.—William, alias Jacob Taylor, the negro arrested in West Virginia for the murder of Isaac Yoakim, and brought back to this city by Detective Mahoney, made a confession to Chief of Police Pagels. He said that the blow which crushed Yoakim's skull was struck by another colored man, named Jacob Howell, and that he and Howell divided the money taken from Yoakim's body.

The police put no faith in the story, but have arrested Howell. It was from the latter that the police first obtained their clue as to the identity of the murderer. Howell said that at Taylor's request he had walked into Columbus from Worthington with the latter and that Taylor had considerable money and said he was going to Virginia.

Howell made no attempt to get away, and was found at his work, chopping wood, near Worthington. He denies all knowledge of the crime, or that he had any participation in it or the proceeds of the robbery.

Mrs. Yoakim, when she found the body of her husband, saw a man running away in the dusk. These facts lead the police to believe that Taylor committed the crime unassisted.

A SMALL RIOT.

"Bums" Make Work for the Police Early This Morning.

About 3 o'clock this morning a crowd of about fifteen or twenty "bums," supposed to have come from above here, became involved in a quarrel that soon developed into a small sized riot. A call was sent in to police headquarters and a squad of officers was sent up in the patrol wagon but the whole lot except one had escaped. The men had assaulted the watchman at the North Wheeling glass works.

O'Toole—"There, bazaar, I've tied Barry's goat on the railroad track and that train coming n'll kill 'um." Goat—"Now, if I hadn't swallowed Mrs. Hoolihan's red petticoat yesterday I couldn't have coughed it up to flag that train."—Kate Field's Washington.

PRESS CENSORS

In Turkey Dictate a Statement of Armenian Outrages.

OFFICIAL LETTERS ARE OPENED

By Turkish Officers Before Their Final Delivery.

AMERICAN BOARD OF MISSIONS

Shows that the Mail of Foreigners Is Interfered With By the Sultan's Agents—The Fishy Story that All Papers in Turkey Were Required to Print on Pain of Suppression—The Sublime Porte Claimed that the Stories Published in the American and British Papers Are Exaggerated—The Official Investigation Ordered—The Statement of the Sultan.

BOSTON, Dec. 30.—The following statement with reference to the condition of affairs in those districts in Armenia where Christian missionaries are stationed was to-day issued by the American board of commissioners for foreign missions.

Official letters sent recently from the rooms of the American board of commissioners for foreign missions, containing accounts relating to the European-turkey missions, were opened by the Turkish officials. The letters were subsequently delivered, but with the Turkish word "examine," written on the envelope. This indicated that the Turkish government is attempting to assume all authority over the mails of foreigners.

When the reports of the massacre of Christians in Sassoun district of Eastern Turkey became public, after more than two months of suppression on the part of the Turkish officials, the Ottoman government was alarmed at the widespread publications in the American and English press. Under pressure from foreign powers the sultan agreed to send a commissioner to investigate and report upon the outrages. In view of this promise of the government the representatives of the European powers at Constantinople decided to wait for the report before taking any positive action.

But after this decision by the powers, and while they were waiting for the departure of the sultan's commission, which had been appointed and which was to make full and impartial investigations of all the affairs reported by the English consul, as well as by many individuals from the Sassoun district, the Turkish government gave out the following official statement of the case, which statement was printed in the papers of Constantinople. All papers printed in Turkey are under close censorship and no paper could refuse to print the statement under penalty of immediate suspension. Hence, the Christian periodicals were compelled to print what they knew to be false.

THE TURKISH STATEMENT.

The statement follows: "Some of the recent European papers have stated, contrary to the truth, that a few Armenian villages have been destroyed, and in the meantime persons have been massacred by the Turkish soldiers in the district of Sassoun. Others, in order to magnify these reports, have asserted that the news of the outrage was prevented from leaking out by the obstacles the government put in the way of travellers from that district."

"The subjects of the empire of Sassoun district are quietly engaged with their business and the people travel wherever they wish in perfect safety."

"Some Armenian bandits, being induced by agitators, began lately in and about Sassoun to disturb the peace and comfort of the people by murdering, plundering and blocking the highways. In order to put an end to such disasters, the government employed the necessary means, and consequently ordered out a sufficient body of the Fourth army corps. Thus the extension of the revolt being checked the troops were withdrawn to their headquarters."

"There was no interference by the Kurds, but, as stated above, some Armenian bandits having ventured to disorderly actions, the Fourth imperial army corps and also the governor of Bitlis, undertook to investigate as to the facts and subsequently a commission of inquiry composed of Abdoliah Pasha, Eomer Bey, Medjid Edendi and Hafez Tevrik Pasha, who will start this week by steamer to the scene of the trouble."

"In general the sublime porte will never allow such outrages to be perpetrated as published in foreign papers upon its subjects."

FOUND HIMSELF.

Congressman Butler's Mysterious Disappearance Accounted For.

INDIANAPOLIS, IND., Dec. 30.—Congressman Wall Butler, of West Union, Iowa, was located here to-day. In fact, he located himself.

In the Chicago papers he noticed a reward had been offered by his wife for the recovery of his body on the supposition that he was dead. But at once called at the local newspaper offices to state that he is alive.

In explanation of his sudden disappearance from his Iowa home two months ago, he says that the morning of November 22, he awoke by hearing a trainman call out Indianapolis. He says that from the time he dismissed the school he was teaching in Iowa, on November 20, until now his mind was a perfect blank.

Weather Forecast for To-day.
For West Virginia, local snow; colder; southerly winds, becoming northerly.
For Western Pennsylvania, local snows and colder; variable winds becoming northerly.
For Ohio, local snows; colder; northerly winds.

THE TEMPERATURE SATURDAY.
As furnished by C. Schaeffer, druggist, corner Market and Fortien streets.

	7 a. m.	9 a. m.	11 a. m.	1 p. m.	3 p. m.	5 p. m.	7 p. m.	9 p. m.
Therm.	31	31	31	31	31	31	31	31
Wind	W.	W.	W.	W.	W.	W.	W.	W.
Bar.	30.0	30.0	30.0	30.0	30.0	30.0	30.0	30.0

Below zero. SUNDAY.
Therm. 31, 31, 31, 31, 31, 31, 31, 31, 31.
Wind W., W., W., W., W., W., W., W., W.
Bar. 30.0, 30.0